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*"Products conceived and developed by nurses & other healthcare professionals"*

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Started: February 23, 2012 - Completed: March 21, 2012

Response to Request for Information

*Be advised, per our conversation on 2/22/2012, I did not receive  
the paper work until it was faxed this same date. Thank you.*

Re: Infant positioning device " Preemie Nest" Appl. No.: 09500736 Patent No.: 6,381,787

- A) The Error -- The Master Calendar (MC), which was posted and maintained and performed by Mrs. Rogone (I, me, my, Sharon), is misplaced during the long painful and disorienting ordeal of pain, multiple surgeries, pain meds and rehab, as well as family deaths, between the time of May of 2005 through July of 2011. Apparently, Mr. Croteau (Ken), while enduring his own hardships, confused mental state and medical dilemmas, from early 2008-2010 that ultimately led to his demise, decided to remove the MC from my work area and sequestered it among his own paperwork. This made it impossible for me to see the MC, even if and when I could come into the office and stay abreast of the maintenance needed. I worked almost entirely from home with infrequent visits, of short duration, just to try to focus on that which demanded my attention for my small business.
- B) Business routine -- Our small growing business is considered a micro-company, with a micro staff and has run on a very limited budget. Each of us has had to wear many hats. We do have a Policy and Procedure manual that outlines each of our duties and functions. But we have not had the latitude to overlap each other. We do try to have each other's backs and it has all run very smoothly until we were beset with so many hardships, medical disasters, and deaths, that we floundered. The patents were mine. The MC was posted on the wall of my work area (cubicle) where it could not be missed if I had been there. I believe Ken removed it at some time thinking he should have my back and help. Yet who knew? (You will be able to see that what happened in our small 5 man office. It is almost unconceivable? So many serious illnesses and so many deaths. Who could anticipate those circumstances?).
- C) Experience for duty: I was the one who was to take care of the patent maintenance. My experience included being a registered nurse with mountains of documentation and paperwork, running a travel agency, more paperwork and my own real estate business, with paperwork plus. And, since I had written most of the first patent myself, with only the last 6-10 words changed by an attorney to be accepted, I seemed capable and prepared to take care of this duty without problem. The MC was in place (hard copy only) and with the internet and online forms and credit card payments, I thought I was all set. It seemed easy. However, I had not planned on what was coming our way. Who would or could?

Mrs. Rogone's (that's me):

*My circumstances that affected the maintenance fee payment from November 2005-July 2011*

The circumstances: I was injured in the spring of 2004 and was in excruciating pain and on very strong pain medication which was disorienting and made it difficult to concentrate. After the year long process of being tested and diagnosed I finally had a botched back surgery in July of 2005, which left me in worse shape and in even more pain, I could not sit or stand for more than 5-10 minutes and used a walker to get to the bathroom, that was all I could tolerate. My spine collapsed post surgery and I shrunk 3 inches in height. The doctor knew he had messed up and refused to see me. Now in an unbelievable dilemma I start the battle with the HMO to see another doctor out of our area and HMO. This all starts in the spring of 2004 and continues through May of 2006. I am finally authorized to have the surgery in December of 2007 to repair all the trauma and restore some of my function and relieve the pain. But, following my 2nd back surgery, and the long endured trauma from 2005-2007, my left leg is paralyzed with severe nerve damage and nerve pain. I now begin the long rehab (PT) and recuperative process. I continue on strong pain meds, this does not make for clear thought and organization. I try to work from home with my laptop and the internet allowing me to work on my office computer desktop. But the work area and the MC are not visible. I must go to PT 2X a week with passive range of motion exercises 3 X a day at home. The paralysis slowly resolves, for the most part, but the nerve damage and nerve pain continue and so do the pain meds. I have to continue PT and go through multiple pain med adjustments. I finally start to feel better and get back on track (still working from home), when my younger brother dies in 2008 and my Mom comes to live with us. We get her settled in and I, again, begin to notice my back and hip and leg pain are getting worse again and I am back to strong pain meds. Of course, more exams and tests follow and then another 3rd, but smaller, ortho-surgery in November of 2009 to replace a disc, I continuing on pain meds and PT and have more down time. Again I start to feel better and try to go to the office, but the saga continues. Mom, who has been very healthy, is with us for 6 months and has a stroke and then another and ultimately dies 12/26/2009. My Dad, who is still driving and golfing and going to the Elks, dies in his sleep 12/22/2009, the same night my Mom has her second stroke and I am still recovering from the November surgery. Wow!! My Mom and Dad, both are gone in December 2009. I was reeling, but planned 2 funerals, all be it, in a fog. And, if all this is not enough, and only to add to this confusing and disorienting time, when any help might have come from some of our small staff, Ken (Mr. Croteau), is struck with multiple illnesses 2008-2010, viral meningitis, heart stint surgery and then kidney cancer and ultimately dies 12/6/2010. This is crazy! I have now returned to work, part-time, trying hard to pick up all the loose ends that have been missed. Yet, in addition to Ken's and my problems, my bookkeeper and girl Friday, Pam, is having her own disaster, her younger sister is diagnosed, in December of 2009, with lung cancer and dies in February of 2010, in only 3 months. Next she deals with the sudden decline and illness of her father, followed by his death in November of 2010. Is this real? She is not functioning well and is of little help, as could be expected. She is out of the office frequently and is not able to come to my aid on my return. I have been out quite a long while and do not notice the missing MC, plus, there is no one else available as I try to take over where I left off. It is the end of 2010 and the only other executive person in our office in a full time position is my husband, Phil. He is VP for sales and marketing, not management, and has his hands full. He is not only dealing with all the illness and death and hardship in his own home, but in the office as well, and Ken was his best friend and Pam was his only help. He is trying to manage everything himself and train someone, Kelly, to fill in for Ken and keep our sales moving forward (which he did well). Starting, the new year, 2011, we all begin the road back. We all take over a little bit of Ken's responsibility and continue to train the new girl, Kelly. I am trying to reorganize all my duties and resume all that I had done before. While Kelly is learning her new job and taking over Ken's work area and

cleaning out his files and piles of paperwork, to organize things for herself, she discovers the MC and brings it to my attention. This is when I realized we had missed all of the maintenance dates, and knew we were in default. I got on line and researched what I needed to do, pulled up the forms I thought I needed and filled them all out. By now it is into March 2011, I called and spoke to the USPTO, customer service, or the help line, to make sure I was on the right track and they told me I would need all my medical records and death certificates and anything else that could prove the hardships and to get everything together before I filed the forms. So, I began contacting all sources and collecting all that information but it took awhile to receive everything. This brings us to July 2011. And, I mail everything I have managed to collect, fill out, and write, and, all I hope I will need. Well we know that was wrong! Sorry, I tried.

I was recently released from doctor's care and am considered stationary and stable with a permanent disability. I am no longer on narcotic meds but still take meds to quite the damaged nerves in my back and leg. I am good. But you can see I am pretty well incapacitated from the spring of 2004 and continuing on as I pick up all the pieces and reorganizing through July 2011 and more. I know this all seems unreal and impossible, but you have all the medical records and death certificates and it seems impossible to me too. But it is fact, and sometimes fact is more unbelievable than fiction. Yet through it all, our business has been truly blessed to grow and continue to affect the outcomes for the lives of our preemie baby patients.

I also want you to know that besides the MC hard copy, I am programming all the maintenance dates into my computer calendar. It is set up with a check system to notify me and everyone else of all due dates for all our projects. I am now aware that we can no longer trust that we can cover all we have to do without back up.



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March 21, 2012

Attn: Kenya McLaughlin and To whom it may concern:


Concerning Response to Requests for Information on

Patents #'s 6,210,320 & 6,381,787 & 5,6113,502

Be advised, per our conversation on 2/22/2012, I did not receive  
the paper work until it was faxed this same date.

Thank you so very much-- Sharon

Thank you;

  
M. Sharon Rogone RNC, CEO, President